

DELL

NO. 924 10¢

COLT 45

starring

**WAYDE
PRESTON**

His guns
became
the law of
the land

AUTHORIZED EDITION

An undercover army captain, Colt
uses the guise of a gun salesman to
cover his official business —
which varies from catching out-
laws to giving surprising, im-
promptu demonstrations of his
merchandise . . . a pair of colts



Chris Colt

Colt's enemies are a mixture of out-
laws and gunslingers, who talk big . .
but have strong misgivings about
drawing against the calm captain.
They are aware of his skill with the
two guns in his holsters and know that
each gun carries six facts that they
would rather not face!



COST 45 Mo. \$24 Published by Dell Publishing Co., Inc., 350 Third Avenue, New York 17, N. Y. George T. Delacorte, Jr., Publisher; Helen Meyer Friedman, Paul W. Lilly, Executive Vice President; Harold Clark, Vice Pres., Advertising Executive; Alfred P. Delacorte, Treasurer. © 1954 by Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc. All rights reserved throughout the world. Authorized edition. Printed in U.S.A. Designed and produced by Western Printing & Lithographing Co.

This periodical is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be disposed of by way of trade except at the full retail price; not in a mutilated condition; nor offered to act as part of any advertising library or postage matter whatsoever.

COLT .45

DECOY

ONE HOT SUMMER AFTERNOON IN THE YEAR 1875, CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER COLT, UNDERCOVER INTELLIGENCE OFFICER FOR THE WAR DEPARTMENT, STANDS AS A WITNESS AT A MILITARY COURT-MARTIAL...

...AND IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT YOU DID FOR PERSONAL GAIN INFORM THE BANDIT EL CHARGO, OF THE WHEREABOUTS OF A SHIPMENT OF GUNS CONSIDERED TO YOUR POST, AND THAT EL CHARGO DID THEN CONDUCT A RAID ACROSS THE BORDER RESULTING IN THE THEFT OF THESE GUNS! IT IS THEREFORE THE JUDGEMENT OF THIS COURT-MARTIAL THAT YOU, COLONEL FREDERICK DUNCAN, ARE GUILTY OF TREASON...

NO! GAD, THEY CAN'T DO THIS TO YOU!



THEREFORE, YOU SHALL BE STRIPPED OF ALL RANK AND CONFINED IN A MILITARY PRISON FOR THE REST OF YOUR NATURAL LIFE!



LIES! THEY WERE ALL LIES!

LET'S GO, COLONEL!



THE GUARDS AND THE PRISONER START DOWN THE CORRIDOR WHEN SUDDENLY...



AND SO, THE TRIAL WHICH INVOLVED LONG DAYS OF TESTIMONY, ENDS ABRUPTLY AND TRAGICALLY...



IN HIS HOTEL ROOM A SHORT TIME LATER, CHRIS COLT PACKS HIS BELONGINGS...





A FEW DAYS LATER, IN HIS ROLE AS A SALESMAN FOR THE COLT FIREARMS COMPANY, CHRIS ARRIVES IN A MEXICAN BORDER TOWN...



INSIDE THE STORE, COLT DEMONSTRATES HIS GUN TO THE STOREKEEPER...





IN THE CAFE DOWNSTAIRS...



THERE, SEÑORITA!
THAT IS DONA RITA!

THANK YOU,
PEPITO!

ELENA INTRODUCES HERSELF...



WHAT A DELIGHT TO
MEET YOU, MISS DUNCAN!
THE HOTEL CLERK TOLD
ME YOU WERE HERE!
HE KNEW YOUR FATHER
WAS MY FRIEND!

YES, NOW I
REMEMBER...
MY FATHER USED
TO VISIT YOUR
HACIENDA... YOUR
SON IS NAMED
RAMON, ISN'T HE?



YES! RAMON DEL SANCHEZ...
SPORTSMAN, HUNTER, AND
BENEFACTOR TO THE WHOLE
PROVINCE! YOU SHALL
MEET HIM SOON...



BUT RIGHT NOW, WE HAVE MANY
THINGS TO TALK ABOUT... WE MUST
GET ACQUAINTED... I FEEL WE
ARE GOING TO BE GOOD FRIENDS...

AT THAT MOMENT, ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE
HOTEL, CHRIS HAS TAKEN UP A POSITION WHERE HE
CAN WATCH THE STREET...



ELENA DUNCAN'S PRESENCE
HERE MAKES THINGS
DIFFICULT... YET I HAVE
TO KEEP AN EYE
ON HER...

SUDDENLY, CHRIS REACTS TO A
WHISPERED VOICE BEHIND HIM...



SENOR CUL!

TURNING TOWARD THE SHADOWS BEHIND HIM, CHRIS IS MET WITH A VIOLENT ONSLAUGHT OF FISTS...



CHRIS STRUGGLES BRAVELY, REFUSING TO GO DOWN UNDER THE MERCILESS ASSAULT...



SUDDENLY, THE SHADOWS EXPLODE WITH A ROAR...









AS CHRIS CLIMBS THE STAIRS TO HIS ROOM,
HE SEEMS THOUGHTFUL AND PUZZLED...



AND LATE THAT NIGHT, CHRIS STEALS
SILENTLY FROM HIS ROOM...



STEALTHILY, HE MOVES DOWNSTAIRS
AND INTO THE LIBRARY...



CHRIS REMOVES THE COLT .45 FROM THE CASE
AND COMPARES THE SERIAL NUMBER WITH A
LIST...



UPSTAIRS AGAIN, CHRIS ENTERS
DON RAMON'S ROOM...

I HOPE
DON RAMON
IS NOT A
LIGHT
SLEEPER...



THERE IT IS, ON THE BUREAU! I'LL
SWITCH IT WITH **MY OWN** GUN, AND
THEN I'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO
EXAMINE IT
CLOSELY!



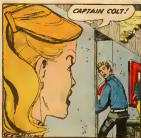
BUT JUST AS CHRIS IS ABOUT TO SWITCH GUNS...



FORCED TO ABANDON HIS PLAN, CHRIS
BACKS OUT OF THE ROOM QUICKLY...



CAPTAIN COLT!



AFRAID OF WAKING THE OTHERS,
CHRIS IS FORCED TO ACT QUICKLY...

SHH! IN ANY ROOM
...QUICKLY!







ELENA REALIZES WITH SUDDEN IMPACT THE DANGER OF THE SITUATION...

THE NEXT MORNING, AS CHRIS COMES INTO THE GARDEN...





DON RAMON SENSES COLT'S SUSPICION BUT CONTINUES TO ACT INNOCENT...



CHRIS TELLES AS THE GIRL REVEALS HIS IDENTITY BUT HE GETS AN UNEXPECTED SURPRISE...



HE HAD NO IDEA THAT ANYONE KNEW HIS LITTLE SECRET... AND NOW, WOULD YOU PLEASE SHOW ME THE REST OF YOUR TROPHIES! THE HUNT HAS ALWAYS FASCINATED ME!

MY PLEASURE, SEÑORITA... EXCUSE US, COLT!



CHRIS LEAVES THE ROOM ANGRILY...



LATER, IN THE LIBRARY...



AS ELENA HAD HOPED, DON RAMON SOON FALLS ASLEEP...



SOON, IN CHRIS COLT'S ROOM...







AT THAT MOMENT, A SHORT
DISTANCE FROM THE RANCHEDA...

"I DON'T LIKE THIS, ELENA,
IT'S TOO EASY! NO GUARDS,
NO ALARM... I THINK DON
RAMON IS SETTING UP A
TRAP! IT LOOKS LIKE
YOU AND I ARE HIS PREY!"

"THIS BRUSH IS SO
THICK... IT IS HARD
TO KNOW WHICH
WAY TO TURN..."

"RAMON IS A DEADLY MARKSMAN
AND AN EXPERIENCED TRACKER!
HE KNOWS EVERY FOOT OF THIS
GROUND... AND HE WON'T
HESITATE TO SHOOT!"

"I'M NOT
AFRAID,
CHRIS!"

"YOU'LL HAVE A BETTER
CHANCE IF YOU GO BACK!
HE STILL DOESN'T
SUSPECT YOU AND..."

"NO, CHRIS!
I'LL TAKE MY
CHANCES..."

NOT FAR AWAY, AS DAWN BREAKS OVER THE TRAIL...

"IT IS GETTING LIGHT
SOON! DO YOU THINK
WE WILL FIND THEM?"

"I'M ~~SCARED~~ OF IT! WE WILL
STALK OUR PREY JUST LIKE IN
THE JUNGLES, MARTINEZ!
THEY WILL NOT ESCAPE
DON RAMON DEL
SANCHEZ!"

CHRIS AND ELENA FLEE THROUGH THE DENSE BRUSH...



WHILE NOT FAR BEHIND THEM...



REACHING A SWAMP CHRIS CARRIES THE GIRL, REALIZING HE CANNOT STOP OR SLOW HIS FLIGHT FOR ONE SECOND...



DON RAMON REACHES A CLEARING AND SPOTS THE FLEEING DUO...



DON RAMON AND MARTINEZ BREAK INTO A RUN AS THEY CROSS THE SWAMP...



CHRIS CLEARS THE TRAIL AS THE BRUSH GETS THICKER...



SUDDENLY, DON RAMON AGAIN RAISES HIS RIFLE AND FIRES AT THE FLEEING COUPLE...



DON RAMON YELLS TO HIS GUARD AND VEERS TOWARD A FAMILIAR TRAIL...



TAKING THE SHORT CUT, DON RAMON AND MARTINEZ APPEAR ON THE TRAIL IN FRONT OF THE HUNTED PAIR...



HALT! IT IS THE END OF THE TRAIL, SENOR COLT!

CHRIS AND ELENA DIVE FOR COVER...



THE ODDS ARE BETTER, ELENA! NOW WE ONLY HAVE RAMON TO CONTEND WITH!

ALONE, RAMON CONTINUES HIS ADVANCE.



IT'S NO USE, COLT! YOU CANNOT ESCAPE ME! ALWAYS GET MY GAGE...



CHRIS! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE, ELENA! THIS MAN IS A MANIAC! BUT HE'S OBSESSED WITH THE CODE OF THE HUNTER! WAIT HERE!

AS ELENA WATCHES, CHRIS STEPS OUT IN FRONT OF RAMON...



DEFEND YOURSELF, YOU FOOL! WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO?

YOU ARE A GREAT HUNTER, OR SO YOU CLAIM! IS EL CHARRRO WILLING TO PLAY THE GAME TO ITS SPORTING FINISH?



COLT .45

EXPLOSION AT EAGLE CANYON

EARLY ONE MORNING,
AT THE ARMY
TESTING GROUNDS
IN EAGLE CANYON...

BOOOOM!!



THE TEST WAS A
COMPLETE SUCCESS,
CAPTAIN BARK!
EVERYTHING WENT
OFF WITHOUT A
BUTCH!

EVEN BETTER THAN WE
HAD ANTICIPATED! IT'S
FRIGHTENING THOUGH,
TO THINK OF THE
IMPLICATIONS OF
THIS DISCOVERY!



WE HAVE DISCOVERED
THE DESTRUCTIVE POWER
OF TETREX!... NOW WE
MUST LEARN TO HARNESS
THAT POWER FOR
PEACEFUL
PURPOSES!

I AM IN COMPLETE
AGREEMENT, MR.
FORBES! BUT YOU
MUST ADMIT THAT
WE ALSO HAVE A
TREMENDOUS
MILITARY WEAPON!
SHOULD THE NEED
ARISE!



AT THAT MOMENT, ON A HILL NEAR
EAGLE CANYON...

AMAZING! JUST
AMAZING! I'VE NEVER
SEEN ANYTHING
LIKE IT!



THAT EXPLOSION
YOU JUST SAW IS
GOING TO MAKE US
A FORTUNE, STARK!

THAT'S WHY I CAME
ALONG, MANNING! NOW
ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS
PUT THE REST OF OUR
PLAN IN OPERATION!

TWO DAYS LATER, IN A SMALL TOWN
NEAR THE MEXICAN BORDER...



I GOT HERE AS FAST
AS POSSIBLE, SIR!
YOUR MESSAGE
SOUNDED URGENT!

YES, COLT... IT WAS MEANT TO BE!
THE WAR DEPARTMENT WAS AN
ASSIGNMENT FOR YOU! A VERY
TOUGHY ONE!



I ASSUME YOU'VE
HEARD OF THE
EXPERIMENTS
WE'VE BEEN
MAKING WITH
"TETRYL,"
HAVEN'T YOU?

YES, SIR! THE COLT
COMPANY HAS BEEN
FOLLOWING THEM
VERY CLOSELY!



DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY,
AT THE EAGLE CANYON
TESTING GROUNDS, THE
FIRST FULL-SCALE
EXPLOSION WAS SET
OFF, WITH **AMAZING**
RESULTS!

I'M NOT SURPRISED!
SOME OF THE FINEST
MINDS IN THE
SCIENTIFIC WORLD
HAVE BEEN WORKING
ON IT!



THAT'S TRUE!
EAGLE CANYON
WAS ALMOST
TOTALLY
DESTROYED!
"TETRYL" HAS
PROVEN TO BE
THE MOST
AWESOME
SUBSTANCE
YET KNOWN!



IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT
THE FORMULA MUST BE KEPT
SECRET FOR NOW! I DON'T
HAVE TO TELL YOU WHAT
MIGHT HAPPEN IF IT WERE
PUT TO USE BY THE
WRONG PEOPLE!

RIGHT, SIR!

THE INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
HAS INFORMED US THAT AN
ATTEMPT *WILL BE MADE*
TO STEAL THE FORMULA
...BUT, THEY DON'T KNOW
WHEN!

THEN THAT'S
MY JOB...
FIND OUT
WHEN AND
STOP IT!



EXACTLY! YOU ARE BEING ASSIGNED TO
FORT KIOWA, THE TESTING CENTER, AS A
CIVILIAN SCOUT! *AND ONE* THERE IS TO
KNOW YOUR IDENTITY, EXCEPT THE
COMMANDANT, CAPTAIN BAWN!



YOU'LL HAVE TO KEEP
YOUR EYES OPEN! WHEN
THE ATTEMPT IS MADE, I
WANT YOU TO BE RIGHT
ON TOP OF IT! ANY
QUESTIONS?

NO, SIR! I'LL
HEAD FOR
FORT KIOWA
RIGHT AWAY!



BE CAREFUL, GOLT! THIS
TIME YOU'RE PLAYING WITH
SOMETHING MUCH MORE
DANGEROUS THAN
DYNAMITE!



GOLT, IN THE GUISE OF A SCOUT,
ARRIVES AT FORT KIOWA...

STOP LIVELY THERE!
GET THOSE BELLYS IN!
KEEP THOSE SHOULDERS
BACK!



HE REPORTS IMMEDIATELY TO THE COMMANDANT, CAPTAIN BAIN...

CHRISTOPHER COLT,
REPORTING FOR
DUTY AS SCOUT,
SIR!

I'VE BEEN EXPECTING
YOU, COLT! SIT DOWN!

HEADQUARTERS INFORMED
ME OF YOUR MISSION! OF
COURSE, I AM READY TO
CO-OPERATE FULLY! NOW
DO YOU INTEND TO
PROCEED?

I HAVE NO
DEFINITE PLAN,
SIR! WERE DO
YOU KEEP THE
FORMULA?

IN THAT SAFE, WE HAVE
DESTROYED ALL OTHER
COPIES OF THE "TETRYL"
FORMULA, AND I AM THE
ONLY MAN ON THE POST
WITH THE COMBINATION
TO THE SAFE!

IS THERE A
POSSIBILITY THAT
ANYONE ON YOUR
STAFF HAS
SEEN YOU WORK
THE COMBINATION?

ABSOLUTELY NOT! I
NEVER OPEN OR CLOSE
THE SAFE WITH ANYONE
IN THE ROOM! BESIDES,
EVERY MAN ON MY
STAFF HAS BEEN
THOROUGHLY
SCREENED FOR
SECURITY!

I'M SURE THEY HAVE,
CAPTAIN, BUT WE
MUST WORK ON THE
THEORY THAT ANY ONE
OF THEM COULD BE
IN WITH WHOEVER IS
AFTER THE FORMULA!

OH, I'M SORRY,
CAPTAIN! I
DIDN'T KNOW
YOU WERE
BUSY!

QUITE ALL RIGHT, MR.
FORBES! THIS IS CHRIS
COLT, OUR NEW SCOUT!
COLT, THIS IS STAN
FORBES, HEAD OF OUR
SCIENTIFIC TEAM!

YES, I'VE HEARD OF YOUR
ACHIEVEMENTS, MR. FORBES!
IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU!

THANK YOU,
MR. COLT!



THE HIGH-POWERED TELESCOPE
BRINGS CHRIS UP CLOSE...



AND HE IS RECOGNIZED...



AS COLT RIDES INTO VIEW,
STARK LEVELS THE RIFLE...



BUT, AS A GLINT OF SUNLIGHT HITS THE RIFLE
BARREL, COLT DIVES FOR COVER...





As Stark mounts his skittery horse...



The two men are soon out of range...



A few minutes later...



COLT FIRES THE BOLT THROUGH
THE HIGH-POWERED TELESCOPE...

COMMA
HEADQUA
FORT KIO

AND FOCUSES ON THE SAFE IN CAPTAIN BAIN'S
OFFICE, MAKING A STARTLING DISCOVERY...

LATER... CAPTAIN BAIN CAN HARDLY BELIEVE HIS
EARS WHEN CHRIS TELLS HIM WHAT HE HAS LEARNED...







GOLT'S AIM IS PERFECT...



AND A FEW MINUTES LATER...



IT'S A LONG STORY, MR. FORBES. BUT ONE THING I CAN TELL YOU FOR SURE IS THAT WHEN I'M THINKING TO MYSELF FROM NOW ON, I'M GOING TO **KEEP MY MOUTH CLOSED!**



A PLEDGE **DELL COMICS** TO PARENTS

The Dell Trademark is, and always has been, a positive guarantee that the comic magazine bearing it contains only clean and wholesome entertainment. The Dell code eliminates entirely, rather than regulates, objectionable material. That's why when your child buys a Dell Comic you can be sure it contains only good fun. "DELL COMICS ARE GOOD COMICS" is our only credo and constant goal.

SOME EARLY COLTS



The first Colt or Colt's revolver was the Paterson model, produced in 1836, at the Patent Arms Manufacturing Company in Paterson, New Jersey. Unlike later models, this one was only a five-shooter and had a fowldaway trigger.



The Walker-Whitneyville Colt, designed in 1839, featured a more substantial trigger and guard, and had a hinged ramrod under the barrel. It was a six-shooter.



The Dragon model of 1848 was shorter and lighter than the Walker Colt, and for long range accuracy could be fitted with a removable carbine stock.



In 1860, the first streamlined Colt was made, with smooth flowing lines of the loading lever and barrel lip. This was also the first Colt to use cartridges, the others being all cap and ball.



But the most famous Colt of all was the 1873 Frontier model—Peacemaker. This six-shot, .45 caliber revolver was such a formidable weapon that it became known as "the gun that won the West."

SUCCESS STORY



As a youth, Samuel Colt had dreams of a hand gun that would revolutionize firearms. At the age of sixteen, serving as an ordinary seaman bound for Calcutta, he whittled out the model of the gun that would later bear his name.



Returning home five years later, he applied for and was granted a patent. But to raise enough money to manufacture his first gun he had to work at many odd jobs.



Finally with enough capital to begin, Sam Colt produced a few guns for the Republic of Texas. But production was slow, and the guns still needed a few improvements.



Captain Sam Walker of the Texas Rangers suggested a few changes. He had used the gun in battle and knew the improvements that would perfect the weapon.



Backed by Eli Whitney, Jr., Colt contracted to turn out 1,000 guns on an assembly line basis. The guns were an immediate success and Sam Colt's fame was established.